

June 4, 2013

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JUN 5 - 2013  
MTC

Amy Rein Worth, Chair  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Mark Luce, Chair  
Association of Bay Area Governments  
101 Eighth Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Chair Worth and Chair Luce:

Thank you for your leadership on the preparation of the Draft Plan Bay Area, the Sustainable Communities Strategy for the San Francisco Bay Region.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the Draft Plan Bay Area and have done so by comparing your Jobs-Housing Connection Strategy with our adopted Envision San José 2040 General Plan Update. A key goal of the General Plan, unanimously adopted by San José City Council in November 2011, is to achieve significant net job generation resulting in a 1.3 jobs per employed resident ratio by 2035. Of course, San José will continue to generate its fair share of housing for all income segments and household types as we have for decades.

In that spirit we wish to voice our concern about the projections contained in the Draft Plan Bay Area. As compared to our General Plan, it seems we are allocated a slightly higher capacity of housing units (13,000 units higher than the General Plan allocation of 430,000 units) but significantly lower job growth capacity (318,000 less jobs than the General Plan allocation of 840,000 jobs). The latter is not in alignment with our long-term land use planning and economic development goals. Other job-rich cities in Silicon Valley are projected to have far more jobs than housing, perpetuating the imbalance within the region. Adding more jobs in San José, specifically in the Downtown, North San José, and other urban or transit-served areas, can do more to reduce congestion, improve air quality, and improve the overall quality of life for the region, as well as generate fiscal and environmental benefits. Please allocate more job capacity to San José.

In terms of the transportation plan component, we appreciate the incorporation of the Valley Transportation Authority's 2040 Plan with the inclusion of all of San José's key projects of interest. Most notably, BART to Downtown San José is a critical investment and must be a priority. Transit investment in San José, most especially in the Downtown and North San José, will do more for reducing greenhouse gasses and meeting the intent of SB375 by offering transit choices to serve a growing population and employment base.

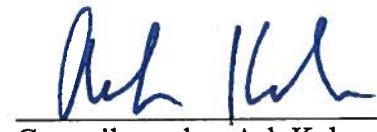
We look forward to continuing to work with the regional agencies on the preparation of the Plan Bay Area and its implementation, and would be most grateful for your consideration of our comments prior to voting on the final document.

Laurel Prevetti, Assistant Director of the City Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement will continue to be the lead on behalf of the City of San José and can be reached via email at [laurel.prevetti@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:laurel.prevetti@sanjoseca.gov) or by phone at 408.535.4812.

Best Wishes,

  
Chuck Reed  
Mayor

  
Councilmember Kansan Chu  
ABAG Executive Boardmember

  
Councilmember Ash Kalra  
ABAG Executive Boardmember

  
Councilmember Sam Liccardo  
ABAG Executive Boardmember  
MTC Commissioner